Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for compressing still images that are stored in electronic media comprising the step of:

      a.   selecting the image to be compressed;

      b.   selecting the desired degree of compression;

      c.   constructing non-separable wavelet filters, based on the desired degree of compression for the image, for decomposition of the image by non-separable wavelet transformation;

      d.   transforming the image into an array of frequency coefficients of the pixels by executing one level of decomposition for each filter;

      <u>e.</u>   <u>sorting said frequency coefficients in descending order</u>;

      [e.] <u>f.</u>   quantizing the values of the frequency coefficients; and

      [f.] <u>g.</u>   encoding the quantized values by run length and arithmetic coding methods;

whereby the image is restored in the YCbCr format through the use of a pre-designated reconstruction formula; and transformed into the RGB palette after reconstruction is complete.